



### WHEELBARROWS AND HANDCARTS

EVACUEE mothers in China have the same desire to see their children warmly clothed and happily occupied as mothers in England; so here you see them, learning to sew, or re-fashioning garments, or making soft toys, and so busy that most seem quite unaware of the photographer! These women have had to suffer much more hardship than has been our lot yet in Great Britain, for their villages and towns have been ruthlessly bombed and they have travelled hundreds of miles with the few possessions they were able to save from the wreckage and to bring on wheelbarrows or handcarts, or just in their hands, to Hong Kong, or to Chinese cities far in the interior of that great country. Many of them lost all they had and have been living for many months in a crowded refugee camp where only a few square feet could be assigned to each family. A large number are peasant women, used to field work and village life, and it is probably just as hard for them to get used to town ways as it is for our evacuated town mothers to get used to the country. But with the usual patience and industry of the Chinese they have settled down to making the best of it, and the Y.W.C.A. in Hong Kong has taken a hand in showing them new ways of turning their abilities to useful account and drawing them into a circle of friendship. I should not be surprised if the sewing party concluded with a good cup of Chinese tea!

### CAN ANYONE TAKE A HINT?

"We felt we needed our Club more than ever these days," says a DARWEN member. The Club-room was commandeered by the Government at the outbreak of war, but they took a "nice little comfortable room" where activities are carried on. And here's a hint (Darwen is in an area of unemployment and the war hasn't cured that yet): "We used to have a Sale now and then when we could get clothes people had done with, but lately it looks as though people are wearing them out as we have not had any for quite a while. The girls were very glad of them and altered things to fit. Perhaps we will have more luck when peace comes again; we must hope and pray it will not be long."

### ACCOMMODATION

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## GADBURY'S MILK CHOCOLATE IS A NOURISHING FOOD

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Q.P. ADM, EOR.CDI, POI 151, P-9

### EUROPE CALLING!

Miss Woodsmall, Secretary of the World's Y.W.C.A., says:—The Y.W.C.A. in Roumania has appealed to the World's Y.W.C.A. on behalf of the Polish refugees. There are about 10,000 Polish civilians in Roumania (the figure for interned soldiers is much higher) and our Association has immediately started trying to meet the dire need of these refugees, but the work cannot go forward without funds.

In Hungary there are even more Polish refugees than in Roumania. In both countries the physical needs of the refugees, food, and shelter will be covered by the Red Cross as far as possible, and certain Government funds have also been started. But aside from these material needs there is the deeper need for the special type of service which the Christian associations can render.

There is also an urgent need in France along two lines. On the one hand France still has hundreds of thousands of refugees who have no country to which they can return. We hear that many women are in great need and we shall investigate further the ways and means by which we can help them. On the other hand the French National Association is faced with the huge problem of their own evacuees.

We realise that many of you are facing serious financial difficulties in maintaining your own regular work, but we know that you will consider these appeals as an opportunity to give tangible evidence to our Christian unity.

### WHEN YOU GO TO A PARTY



**Gas Mask Carrier.**—Sack in felt with zip-fastener. This pattern is issued by The Crafts Council (under the auspices of the National Council of Girls' Clubs, Hamilton House, Bidborough Street, London, W.C.1. "War-Time Directions Papers," 2d. each, can be had from the above address. A "tallboy" and a standard case cover patterns are also obtainable).

**Materials Required.**—Crafts Council Packet for Sack in Felt (price 1/9, postage 2d., in black, navy, mid-blue, saxe, nigger, wine, scarlet, grey, beige and bottle-green).

**Cutting Out.**—Cut without turnings: 2 side pieces in felt; 2 side pieces in lining, 1/16th of an inch narrower than pattern; 1 circle in felt; 1 circle in lining; 1 circle in cardboard 1/4 inch smaller than pattern.

**Making Up.**—Sew a frame or pocket for name card to the lining before making up, also any decoration on the sack, which should be on one side only. Place the gas mask in the finished sack so that the mica eyepiece is next to the decorated side. For added protection a piece of cardboard may be slipped in between the felt and lining when making up the sack, and the lining may be wax polished before it is cut to make it waterproof. To do this apply polish thickly all over wrong side and rub in well. Then rub off as much as possible with a clean cloth. Really hard rubbing is required.

**National Health and Pensions Acts**  
**SCOTTISH WOMEN'S FRIENDLY SOCIETY**  
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RESIDENT IN ENGLAND & SCOTLAND

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# THE BLUE TRIANGLE

## WAR-TIME EDITION



FEBRUARY, 1940

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE Y.W.C.A. OF GREAT BRITAIN.

Patrons:  
H.M. THE QUEEN and H.M. THE QUEEN MARY.

IF YOU FEEL  
"I CAN'T COPE"  
ASK YOURSELF  
"CAN I CO-OPERATE?"  
WITH ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO THE B.C.

VOL. 58

No. 2

PRICE - 1/6 per Annum, post free.

National Offices: Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL BUILDING,  
GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.  
All letters should now be sent to this address—  
Bournemouth Section is closed.

### IN THE SNOW

A Canteen for A.T.S. was opened in Kent at the end of December. Till then the girls had nowhere to go for their mid-day dinner, now for the sum of 1/- a hot meal of meat, two vegetables and pudding can be obtained, and a cup of tea or coffee to follow. The local branch of the Women's Voluntary Service send six helpers every day to help in the Canteen, and also someone to be at the cash desk.

The A.T.S. have asked that their warmest thanks might be conveyed to the Y.W.C.A., who have made this hot meal possible; it makes all the difference to them these cold days, instead of sandwiches in the office it's a race now to the Canteen, with the excitement of what's on the menu to-day? Many are seen returning to the office down the snowy lane with little paper bags containing a very popular sticky sugar bun or home-made cake to cheer up the office cup of tea!

### A HUT AT CATTERICK

The first Y.W.C.A.-built Hut was opened officially in January. The Bishop of Knarborough was present at the opening ceremony, and Mrs. Grenfell went to Yorkshire specially for it. The premises consist of a large hall, sitting-room, canteen, and quarters for two members of staff. Mrs. Newhouse, one of our National Vice-Presidents, has, very fortunately, been able to give a very large amount of time and thought to this scheme, as Major Newhouse is quartered there, and it has been indeed fortunate having all her help with the preliminary work, and to know that she will be able to be a frequent visitor.

Scattered units of A.T.S. in North-East of England. Our workers have now been able to establish contact with a number of these units and are working in these small villages. A young Club Leader has gone to arrange programme activities. We are seeing if we can get a projector, as we want to try and not only take the Club to them, but to take the cinema to them also!

We are getting several requests for help of this sort with scattered units in different parts of the country, and we know that imagination and ingenuity will be needed to find the best ways to help to plan leisure-time activities for these small groups.

**45 PIECES OF WORK FOR WOMEN IN THE FORCES HAVE BEEN OPENED OR ARE BEING PLANNED BY THE Y.W.C.A.**

Y.W.C.A. Girls' Club House, Eastbourne (With acknowledgments to "Eastbourne Herald")



Y.W.C.A. Play Centre, Norwich (With acknowledgments to "The Lady")



## ALL THE YEAR ROUND

Miss Robertson, from India, Makes Some Practical Suggestions

It was my privilege during this last Week of Prayer and World Fellowship to visit five Associations in the North of England, and once again I was conscious how this Week reveals the degree in which we have realised our claim to be a World Christian Association. Memories remain with me from these visits of colourful pageantry, portraying the spirit of our Association drawing women of all nations together in fellowship; of worship services where we remembered our national Associations with their diverse settings and needs, and of enrolment services through which members were received into the fuller life of the Association centre and took upon themselves a new responsibility. And surely the greater part of this responsibility is to deepen a knowledge of World Fellowship both at the circumference and the source. By this I mean we need more serious Bible study, to revivify our belief that God is Lord of all nations, and a new practise of prayer and worship. In a war-torn world we can only find our peace as we seek to know the mind and will of the Master and Redeemer in Whom we have found our unity.

Likewise, if we believe that the earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof His to give us at His pleasure for the common weal, we need more study of the economic and social structure of our world so that we may see where we have gone astray and where we must remake things according to the will of a loving Father.

Thirdly, it seems to me we are called upon to establish more strongly than ever our contacts between countries—a new acceptance of responsibility one for another in the world family, with a more constant sharing of material and spiritual resources.

Where they do not already exist I would suggest the formation of a World Fellowship Committee within every Club centre, which would undertake to be responsible for presenting through posters, pageantry, service appeals, discussions and study circles, this challenge of world citizenship. An interesting war-time project would be to study "Where does our food come from, and under what conditions is it produced?" including a study of social conditions and labour laws. The words "sugar" and "bananas" send our thoughts immediately to our Association in Jamaica as a possible source of information. Such a project could well culminate in a World Fellowship Banquet during the second week of November, 1940, and what a significance it would have! Or why not follow the tragic refugee movements of history, seeing what they have contributed to the life of the nations, and not forgetting the refugees.

I cannot close without a plea for the villages. I have so often wished we had a travelling troupe of Y.W.C.A. players who could tell in picture and story of the development of the Association both at home and overseas. Through friends perhaps you could arrange an Overseas Exhibition in some village hall, with a short, dramatic presentation of the Y.W.C.A. touching just such village groups in an ever expanding fellowship all over the world. Or your "keep fit" display might be a welcome entertainment, taking a collection for Overseas, and showing in some way where the money goes. This vision of "World Fellowship" which we have seen and partly realised is something we dare not keep to ourselves in 1940.

Newcastle entertained seventeen POLISH STEWARDESSES who have been living in the Y.W.C.A. Hostel since they were landed from a Polish liner. Only a few could speak English, but the Christmas tree and dancing spoke a universal language. One, described as "most attractive in her white braided black frock," was married only a year ago. She had good news of her husband and hoped to return to him soon; but others were less happy, not knowing where their families or young children were. Some of the stewardesses are joining the Club "keep-fit" class.

Blackburn says their Club's Christmas decorations were Polish trimmings made by a Committee member.

Many parties, of course, included men of the services and Y.M.C.A. friends. Cambridge says theirs "went with a swing"; no doubt the same description applies to all. Sunday mixed socials are a popular item. Torquay enliven their with coffee and biscuits.

Sunderland Mixed Club is enthusiastic about table tennis.

CHRISTMAS SALES AND BAZAARS have been carried through successfully despite the war. Sunderland had a "Bring and Buy" and a "Jumble Sale." At Richmond the decorations were so gay that passers-by asked, "Has peace been declared?"

NURSERY RHYME DOLLS are a good idea from a Coventry sale and they say cute woollen budgerigars perched on rings were "snapped up"! The Club has since adopted a live budgerigar!

BUDGERIGARS are Y.W.C.A. news evidently—one was present at an enrolment service at Billesley. It had been at a Y.W.C.A. camp with its owner already, so in no way disturbed the proceedings.

At Smethwick (another Club in the Birmingham Division) an enrolment service included the "Link" ceremony, which is performed with names of countries in the Association World Fellowship written on slips of paper and linking ribbons.

## CAROL PARTIES WELCOME THE MOON

Colne included an A.R.P. wardens' post in their visits. A Bournemouth party with some Y.M.C.A. friends were asked to sing inside several hotels and made a nice little collection. Bristol sang outside almshouses and afterwards knocked at the doors and distributed gay little parcels to each old man or woman. Coventry sang at a children's gift service at a church and afterwards "toured" and made a collection for a children's party.

## WE ARE STILL ACTING!

Birmingham held a Religious Drama Conference, which included a lecture, discussions and questions, and demonstrations in which volunteers from the audience rehearsed scenes directed by Miss Wellby, the enthusiastic lecturer.

Action Dramatic Group performed "Five Birds in a Cage."

Watford recommends and sends in a description of a somewhat unusual play, "The Lost Christmas," by Myra Lovatt (S.P.C.K., 6d.), which they performed with success; the settings included an Underground Railway station. The characters are symbolical as in a morality play—the "Managing Woman," the "Frivolous Woman," etc. "The Inn of the Star," an old favourite, was acted by Coventry, and Cambridge members acted "The Inn of Desire."

Northampton's evacuee members recently performed the play called "The Birthday," published in the November "Blue Triangle." (The Editor is particularly pleased to hear this!)

HEBREW SONGS WERE SUNG, as well as Italian, German, and English, at an International Social at Northampton. It was inspiring and impressive when Jews and Christians, led by the Rabbi and a Minister, joined in saying the 23rd Psalm.

## A WELCOME TO ENGLAND

These Chinese ladies are evidently feeling quite at home and enjoying themselves very much, for it is pleasant to be shown the sights of a strange city by someone who knows them as well as does Miss Grace Saunders, the Chairman of the Y.W.C.A. Hospitality Committee, whose privilege it is to get into touch with Y.W.C.A. friends from other countries as they visit us in Great Britain, to show them hospitality and friendship.

Christian German refugees were invited by this Committee to come to an Advent Party. Tables were decorated in the traditional Advent fashion, with strips of fir leaves and red candles in low candlesticks.



## FILM NOTES

WHAT films do you like best in war-time? The member from Wales who wrote the following does not agree with the January writer of Film Notes about war films. Send your opinion to the Editor by 9th March about films you have actually seen.

"In view of the great demand for 'escape' entertainment these days I don't think war films will prove to be too popular. I, for one, who had been looking forward to 'The Dawn Patrol,' deliberately gave it a miss when it came to Newport just after the outbreak of war. However, 'The Lion Has Wings' is an interesting experiment which gives one a sense (perhaps false) of security. The propaganda pill has been well sugared and it is interesting to catch a glimpse of the powers behind the scenes controlling an air battle over a checkered table in a secret room. But the introduction of the Spanish Armada into the middle of an air raid is a trifle odd.

"In my opinion it would be a great mistake to sacrifice the Secret Service films which the British studios excel in turning out. 'The Four Just Men' doesn't quite fall into the category of a Secret Service film, but the style is very similar. Frank Lawton plays a remarkably realistic death scene in this picture. It is interesting to observe how Edgar Wallace's story has been brought up to date—most notably by the 'In Town To-night' scene and the introduction of 'Picture Post' into the usual newspaper headline sequence.

"I think most of us feel that it would be rather painful at the present time to sit through a too realistic war film, although producers could always get away with an historical war film whenever they feel blood-thirsty!" B.J.

## SCOTTISH NEWS

Contributions should be sent to 116, George Street, Edinburgh, by the 25th of the month.

IN Scotland, as elsewhere at Christmas-time, there have been carol services, concerts, plays, parties for men in uniform, and for evacuated families. But there is unabated enthusiasm for first-aid training and Red Cross gatherings.

The Christmas Eve service at Motherwell included appropriate hymns and readings, a play, and the lovelest of the carols.

## A HIGHLAND CHRISTMAS DINNER

INVERNESS.—The Divisional Secretary was the guest of honour at the Inverness Club Christmas dinner and on the following evening at Fort William. The Hostel at Inverness as well as having auxiliary nurses in training has had for the past six weeks ten A.T.S. Some of the latter were free to attend the Christmas dinner. Lady Hermione Cameron was in the chair, and the usual toasts of "The King," "The Association," and "The Flora Macdonald Centre" were drunk. The spirit of Christmas was emphasised by the piled Yule logs in the large brick fireplace in the hall, while the platform depicted the front of a house with an open door gaily lit from within, and with a portrait of our President, H.M. Queen Elizabeth, on the inside wall. Every Friday evening soldiers under the age of 25 are welcomed to the social. A thrill was added to their gathering on the Friday before Christmas when Lochiel's piper played the reels.

## GOOD IDEAS

ARDROSSAN.—A Lunch Club for girls employed in a neighbouring factory.

BLAIRGOWRIE.—A Whist Drive arranged by the Married Women's Section for Red Cross and W.V.S. comforts fund; a splendid parcel of comforts knitted by Pioneers, the wool money raised themselves; and two hints for a party (a), a clever A.R.P. competition, (b) an "Old Clo" game with prizes "for the funniest get-up," the march past causing great amusement.

CUMBERNAULD.—A good entertainment for Red Cross and local war work; it included Norwegian, English and Scots dances, two sketches and choruses, solo singers, and a comedian.

ELGIN.—Co-operation with the Roman Catholic Church and British Women's Temperance Association in running a soldiers' canteen in one of the Church of Scotland Halls.

(Continued at foot of next column)



## "CITIZENS' NOTES"

## CITIZENS NOTE,

In 1940

There'll be need to be more sporty.  
Internationally minded be,  
Zealous for discussion free,  
Even ready to agree  
News reporting may not be  
Solely fact, of bias free!

Now strengthen your intention,  
Of using recreation  
To the service of the nation,  
Each one's determination.

## CITIZENS NOTE,

In this New Year

There'll be need for calm, not fear;  
Interest in the things around,  
Zest for fact, objectives found.  
Everyone of physique sound  
Now to morning jerks is bound,  
So, evening's thinking; balance crowned.

Now, strengthen your intention  
Of using recreation  
To the service of the nation,  
Each Centre's dedication.

## "NEW WAYS FOR OLD"

Are you one to benefit by this new system? Should you benefit by it? Look into this question of "Family Allowances" and see what you think about it.

Get the simple illustrated outline from Headquarters, called "New Ways for Old," published by our Public Affairs Committee, price 3d.

## LISTENING?

In February try these—

- Mondays: 11.45 a.m. Book Talks by S. P. B. Mais.  
2.20 p.m. Musical Scenes and Stories, planned by John Horton.
- Tuesdays: 11.40 a.m. Science and the Community, planned by J. Lauwers. The beginnings of the telephone, radio and lots of other marvels.
- Wednesdays: 11.20 a.m. Current Affairs: "Alf" questions the expert.
- Thursdays: 2.40 p.m. Britain Finds Herself, planned by Edith Macqueen.
- Fridays: 11.40 a.m. The British Empire and What It Means.

If you can only listen at night try to hear Dominion Commentary on Tuesdays at 9.15 p.m.; "In Britain Now," and "Men of the Hour," on Fridays, one at 6.15 p.m. and the other at 7.40 p.m., and American Commentary on alternate Saturdays at 9.15 p.m. All the Home Front programmes, too, give us wonderful pictures of war-time Britain.

GLASGOW.—Eighty-four Austrians having their own Club in Central Building. (Elgin has Austrian members, too.)

WHITEINCH (Glasgow) have a "Good Companions" Group, and their Krazy Concert included impromptu skits, and a troupe for chorus and character dancing. A presentation was made to the head of this group, who is leaving to train as a Club leader. A Christmas play, "At the Well of Bethlehem," the scenes interspersed with carol singing.

PARKHEAD has an "All Sorts Club," which is proving very popular; its activities include an energetic concert party.